

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the following claims:

1. (currently amended) An image pickup lens unit comprising at least three optical elements having at least an air interval for forming an air lens wherein the optical elements are formed unitarily and wherein the optical elements are cemented mutually between the other optical elements which neighbors in an optical axis or with a sandwiching members which is cemented with the other optical elements, and

conditions such as $ST/TD < 0.5$ are effective under the condition that an interval between a first surface in an optical system in which the optical elements are cemented and a last surface in the optical system is defined as a TD, a total length of the air interval in the optical axis is defined as an ST, and a maximum length of the air interval in the optical axis is defined as an MT.

2. – 5. (cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) An image pickup lens unit ~~according to Claim 1~~ comprising at least three optical elements having at least an air interval for forming an air lens wherein the optical elements are formed unitarily and wherein the optical elements are cemented mutually between the other optical elements which neighbors in an optical axis or with a sandwiching members which is cemented with the other optical elements, wherein

the optical elements form a cemented lens in which at least optical surfaces of a pair of the optical elements are cemented together, and

a relationship such as

$$0 < |\phi/\phi_A| < 0.5$$

is effective under condition that a maximum power in an cemented surface of the lens is defined as ϕ , and a power of the optical element which is formed unitarily in an overall optical system as defined as ϕ_A .

7. (cancelled)

8. (original) An image pickup lens unit according to Claim 1 wherein an optical filter member is cemented to the optical element.

9. (previously presented) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim 1.

10 - 11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1.

13-15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim ~~[[7]]~~ 6.

17 - 18. (cancelled)

19. (previously presented) An image pickup device according to Claim 12 wherein an image pickup element is cemented to the image pickup lens unit.

20. (cancelled)